NOTE XXVIII.

THE DOG OF THE TENGGER

BY

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(Plates 4 and 5).

In the journal entitled "Natuurkundig Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsch Indië", there has been published in 1896, T. 55, by Dr. Kohlbrugge a very interesting paper on the Mammals of the Tengger. This mountain is to be found in East Java, Residence Pasoeroean, to the north of the Semeroe or Semiroe, the highest mountain of Java. On the Tengger to the height of 7500 feet potatoes and vegetables, coffee and maize are growing.

As Dr. Kohlbrugge's paper has been published in the dutch language I translate here a part of it, dealing with *a wild dog* — at present after Dr. Kohlbrugge extinct —, described by him as a distinct variety under the title *Canis familiaris* var. *tenggerana*.

Dr. Kohlbrugge almost narrates as follows: "it is a well known fact that the tame house-dogs of our Malayan brethern are extremely ugly, that they devore the most disgusting food and therefore are despised by the Europeans, who call them "kampong-gladakkers": since times immemorial european dogs have been imported, without success however as they soon fell ill and die, or they do not or rarely breed, especially not if long-haired. Very evident therefore was, that after it generally had been known that on the

Tengger was living a peculiar kind of dogs, very well to be compared to the finest european canine species, all the amateurs of dogs emulously tried to procure them; they have been named "Tenggereezen" or "Tenggerese dogs". This affection however was their ruin, *for the Tenggerese dogs do not exist as yet!* They could not live without mountains, they died not by "Heimweh", but by the heat of the lower regions, where they participated with different diseases, where they pined away and languished. No female specimen is in existence, only some males: as the latter breed with common kampong-dogs, the latest trace of Tenggerese dog soon will disappear for ever. — There is on Java still another "dog-island", namely the Diëng- or Ding-mountains, in middle Java, Residence of Pekalongan, where is living a wild dog also long-haired and brown, and like the Tenggerese only thrives well in the mountains. They however are quite different animals. As I paid a visit to those mountains I had not the good luck of seeing a Diëng-dog, as they too are nearing their end: after the information I could gather the Diëng-dog is smaller, its hair shorter and lighter colored, it generally is less beautiful than the Tenggerese dog. The Diëng-dog living on the very spot where in formerly times was an old city from the Hindouperiod may be a descendant of dogs imported by the foreign priests: on the Tengger however is not to be detected a trace of Hindou-relics, and it is supposed that these mountains have been inhabited only from about 400 years backward. Other naturalists may perhaps be happier than I and discover the relation between the Tenggerese and other dogs. The color of the fleese, thick like sheep's wool, is light brown with a reddish shade and blackish brown streaks: one of the latter runs from the base of the nose along the spine to the tip of beautiful plumy tail; another streak descending from the nape of the neck makes a nice dark collar; two other bands descend from the dorsal streak, one from its middle, the other above the hind legs, they however are short as they

end on the sides of belly and thighs; the ears are dark blackish-brown, so the eye-brows and muzzle: the four extremities light brown; belly, tail and buttocks white with light brown tint. Epithelium of cheeks and palate black, tongue flesh colored. Ears erected, they measure 10.5 cm.; hind feet with four toes. Length from tip of nose to base of tail 98 cm., tail 30 cm. — A comparison of the skeletons shows the following peculiarities between the Kampong-dog, the European dog and the Tenggerese dog: 1°. the humerus is shorter than in the Kampong- and European-dogs, for in the latter the radius is longer than the humerus, meanwhile the difference between humerus and ulna is greater; 2°. the femur is longer than in the Kampong- and European-dogs (exept the basset), for in the latter the femur is shorter than the tibia. It therefore seems allowed to conclude that these two characteristics are peculiar to the Tenggerese dog and distinguish it from all others. Finally I should like to point out that the Tenggerese dog differs from the Kampong-dog much more by its character than by its anatomical peculiarities. The look of the Kampong-dog is unsure, squinting, timid; they fly before every supposed danger especially before Europeans; their fear for the latter ones, at least in the inland, is so great that a fullgrown specimen cannot grow familiar with them. With the true Tenggerese the things are quite different: their look is open and firm, they are courageous, sometimes impudent; he likes to show strangers his teeth and if possible he strangles other dogs. Among its fellow-dogs he is the king and he allows no other to enter his grounds; he too likes hunting, a sport disliked by Kampong-dogs. Notwithstanding their courage however falsehood is a trait of character; they stay out of the way for a stronger enemy, but overtake him if a-sleep or if coupling; such a concurrent remains for ever their enemy: all temporary friendship is hypocrisy, a mere trick to make later on a good hand of it with greater success. Very striking is their jealousy, besides however too their fidelity."

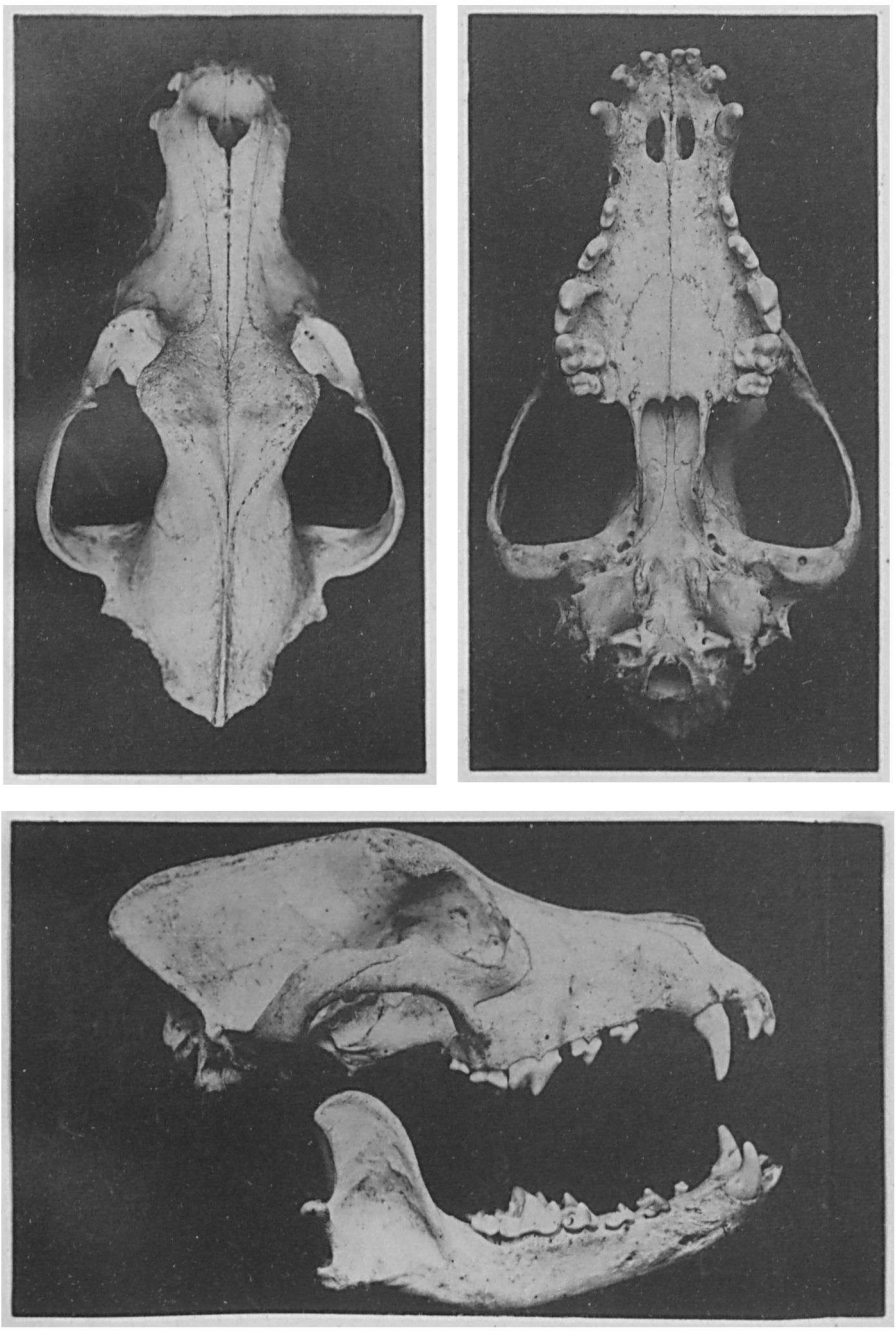
So far Dr. Kohlbrugge. — He was kind enough to present to the Leyden Museum two complete skeletons — the animals were in a very putrified condition as he procured them — besides the right half of the skin of the head of perhaps the last wild Tenggerese dog! A fine photograph representing the author with three Tenggerese dogs accompanied the copy of the above mentioned paper which Dr. Kohlbrugge forwarded to me.

The skull (Plate 4) shows that the right upper premolar is wanting, accidentally however as its alveolus is present, and the left upper premolar is absent, that the third left lower premolar is wanting like the hindmost lower molars — their alveoli are present — and that the first right lower premolar is absent. The anterior palatine foramina are very large. Very remarkable seems to me the shape of the posterior margin of the palate; I failed to discover a similar structure in other *Canis*-species, the other not figured Tenggerese-skull shows it too. For the rest I only may recommend every one to compare our photo's with skulls of other dogs: one good photograph tells more than a thousand lines.

In the skeleton there are 13 dorsal vertebrae with 13 ribs, 7 lumbar and 3 sacral vertebrae, like in other Canine-species, caudal vertebrae however less in number than in *Canis familiaris* and its varities, namely 18.

With the Dingo of Australia it has in common that the humerus is longer than the radius and the femur than the tibia, that their origin is absolutely unknown and that it may be regarded like the Dingo as a truly wild and at the same time a true and perfect dog (see Mivart's Monograph of the Canidae, 1890, p. 153).

A drawing in water-color was taken by my daughter from the imperfect flat skin of the head mentioned above: plate 5 represents it reduced $^2/_3$ of natural size.



J. C. WÄKERLIN AD NAT. PHOT. LICHTDRUK VAN EMRIK & BINGER, HAARLEM.

CANIS FAMILIARIS, VAR: TENGGERANA KOHLBRUGGE.
REDUCED 2.4X.

N. Jentink ad. nat. del.

R. Raar lith.

Canis tenggeranus *Kohlbrugge.*

P. W. M. Trap impr.